Opening of new benches of High Courts

372. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of State Governments which have since made requisite arrangements in their States for opening of new benches of High Courts for which Central Government have been reminding them;

(b) the progress made for setting up of High Court benches in such States;

(c) the latest steps taken with regard to the rest of the States along with their names;, and

(d) the guidelines for opening of a bench of a High Court in a State?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The Central Government have been reminding the Government of Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram for making requisite arrangements for establishing Benches of the Gauhati High Court in their respective State Capitals. The Governments of Nagaland and Mizoram have so far made the requisite arrangments and permanent Benches of the Gauhati High Court have been established at Kohima and Aizawl on 10-2-90 and 5-7-90 respectively.

(c) The Jaswant Singh Commission made specific recommendations for establishment of Benches of the Allahabad, Madhya Pradesh and Madras High Courts, and general recommendation on the principles and criteria to be followed in the matter. The Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were requested to send their proposals in the light of the recommendations of the Commission in consultation with the Chief Justices of the concerned High Courts. Their complete proposals have not been received. They have been reminded.

General recommendations of the Commission were sent to the remaining States for information and guidance.

(d) No guidelines have been prescribed. However, the Jaswant Singh Commission have made general recommendations in this regard.

Strikes in nationalised banks

373. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that banking operations in the country were paralysed many times during the last six months;

(b) if so, the number of strikes that were observed in the nationalised banks during the last six months;

(c) what are the bank-wise details thereof and what was the loss suffered by the nation on account of these strikes; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take to avert the strikes, contain the losses to the exchequer to minimise hardships to the banking customers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Trade unions operating in the banks resort to strikes both at the industry level and at bank level over their demands. As per available information three strikes were called by the unions/associations at the industry level during the year. The effect of a strike basically depends on the strength/following of the union/association which calls for the same. While such strikes do affect the operations of the banks, the quantum of loss suffered by the banks due to